The method of procedure was the following. Observations are available from the following six cities: Boston, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Worcester, Toronto, Oakland. These represent a variety of conditions. We may assume that the variations represented by various cities are due to accidental causes, that is to say, that when the children in all the towns and cities of the country are measured we expect to find the results to vary around a certain average, according to the laws of probability. The type of the total population would embrace statistics of all the individuals of various ages. These are not available, and we must consider the cities in which the measurements were taken as representatives of the total population. In order to unite the material properly we ought to know how large a portion of the population is represented by each city. We cau not obtain any satisfactory information on this point, and the only practicable way of uniting the material seems to be to add all the measured individuals, without regard to the varying numbers that were measured in each city. This has been done. It was necessary to reduce the observations that were recorded in inches to centimeters. Similar reductions were necessary in the tables of weights. This required a lengthy interpolation. The St. Louis measurements required an additional interpolation, as the age of the measured children was recorded at the nearest birthday, while all the other observers counted age from the last birthday. The results of this calculation are given on pages 1555 and 1556.

It will be noticed that the distribution is rather unexpectedly irregular. I presume this is due to the fact that observors developed a tendency to round their observations, so that full inches and the centimeters ending with 0 or 5 (110, 115, 120, etc.) were given undue preference. It is likely that if this fact had been considered, the resulting curves would have been smoother.